# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

: Examiner: Unassigned

RITSUKO OTAKE

: Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned

: Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: IMAGE OUTPUT CONTROL

APPARATUS, IMAGE OUTPUT

CONTROL METHOD, AND

STORAGE MEDIUM

: January 18, 2001

Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the following amendments to the above-identified application.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 14, as follows:

### <u>Claim 14</u>:

Line 1, change "apparatus" to --method--.

#### REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with the application papers.

Claims 1 to 28 are now presented for examination.

Claims 1, 8, 15, 16, 22 and 28 are independent. Claim 14 has been amended to improve the form of the claim. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration of the application and early passage to issue respectfully are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010.

All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 32,078

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CPW\gmc